

familiar to him as a member of his household. The best workers are retained for eggs for hatching the next year. Year after year this process goes on. The pen records are faithfully kept showing the pen averages only and year after year only individuals that have passed the most exacting requirements as to vigor and ability are retained as breeders.

### DECREASE IN SHEEP.

Figures from the Department of Agriculture January, 1903, showed there were 63,964,876 head, and on January 1, 1907, this had decreased to 53,240,000 head. A writer in the Review of Reviews says this decrease was due to the extraordinary demand for mutton and lamb, leading to the selling and slaughter of a large portion of the total number of sheep. Stockyards reports from Chicago, Omaha, St. Joseph, Kansas City and Denver in the last few years show a tremendous increase in sheep shipped for slaughter, and still the supply has hardly kept pace with the demand. It is safe to say that the total number of sheep on January 1, 1908, was about 1,000,000 less than the figures of January 1, 1907. There has been a heavy decrease in Montana and Idaho, and an increase in Wyoming. In fact, Wyoming has passed Montana, and is now the foremost sheep state in the Union.

The heavy demand for mutton and lambs has kept down the wool production since 1902. In that year the total number of pounds of wool clipped in the United States was 324,107,046. In 1907 the total clip was 298,294,750, valued at \$78,263,165.

### WHAT CONSTITUTES A GOOD IRRIGATOR.

John G. Hall.

With us in Colorado, and I am told the same difficulty arises in other localities, when farming is carried on by irrigation, the question of getting a good and efficient man to spread the water is a serious one. A man possessing the knowledge, in the first place, of how to run out the ditches in a field of small grain for instance. Before he can do this he must be a practical irrigator. He must be able to know from looking at the land to be irrigated from what quarter or direction the water will come onto this

elevation or that elevation, and be able to run the ditches in the field accordingly. His ditches must be run onto the high places, also have a fall of at least an inch and one-half to a hundred feet.

The old saying that water will run up hill in an irrigated country is untrue. Water can be delivered from one hill to another by means of a dyke, siphon, pipe or trough, providing the place of delivery is lower, if higher it requires pressure to deliver it to a higher point.

Great care must be taken to get the ditches where all the ground can be covered with water, also not to plow up any more crops than is absolutely necessary, keeping, if possible, the ditches along roadsides, fences, etc.

Now with the ditches properly run on a piece of ground the next question is to get a sufficient quantity of water to travel over the land faster than the spot which is being irrigated will consume it. With the water turned on it is customary to run it night and day until the field is irrigated.

In my experience I find the greatest difficulty is in finding a man that has a disposition to do the required work. What is the required work? Get up at four o'clock in the morning, go out and change the water from the place it has been running all night. Irrigate the short runs in day time, leaving the long runs for the night; shoveling out the ditch; shoveling up the ditch banks; putting in wing ditches to reach a high spot, or doing whatever necessary to improve the condition. Stay with the water until nine or ten o'clock at night, up again at four in the morning. These are the duties required of a good irrigator. A man of this type is worth from ten to twenty dollars a month more than an ordinary man, who is afraid all the time that he is doing too much for his employer.

The writer of this article has carried his blankets into the field and partially slept for a short time within forty rods of his own house so that the water could be changed every hour during the night in time of scarcity.

In conclusion I wish to say an irrigator possessing the knowledge of irrigation and the qualities mentioned above is a jewel and a blessing to his employer at almost any price.—Irrigation Age.

### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Owing to our extensive circulation, market reports must be closed Wednesday noon. Figures quoted are Salt Lake wholesale prices. These quotations are given at the request of many subscribers and are furnished and corrected weekly by the responsible firm of Vogeler Seed and Produce Co.

#### Fruits.

Lemons, case, \$5 to \$5.50; oranges, \$4.50 to \$5.50; bananas, 5½c per lb.

#### Butter and Cheese.

Creamery butter, 25c; cheese, full cream, 14c.

#### Vegetables.

Cabbage, per lb., 1c; potatoes, new Utah's, \$1.50 per cwt.

#### Poultry and Eggs.

Live hens 12½ to 13c per lb.  
Dressed hens 14 to 15c per lb.  
Eggs, strictly fresh, per case, \$7.00 to \$7.00.

#### Grain, Hay and Flour.

Wheat, per 100 lbs., \$1.80; corn, 100 lbs., \$1.80; chop corn, 100 lbs., \$1.85; oats, per 100 lbs., \$1.80; barley, per 100 rolled, \$1.50; bran, per 100 lbs., \$1.30; flour, high patent, per 100 lbs., \$2.70; straight grade, per 100 lbs., \$2.50; alfalfa, baled, 55c cwt.; timothy, baled, 70c cwt.; straw, baled, 35c.

#### Honey.

Honey, case, \$2.75 and \$3.00, extracted, 7c lb.

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